

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TITLE: CLIP FOR A DUMMY STRAP

AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A pacifier strap clip (1) with two clamping parts (2) pivotable relative to each other and having co-operating clamping regions (3), opposing inner-side surfaces (6) of the clamping regions (3) resting against each other in a closed clamping position of the pacifier strap clip (1), and the surface (6) of at least one clamping region (3) at least partially consisting of a material having a lower hardness than the material of the clamping parts (2), characterized in that, wherein the pacifier strap clip (1) is a two-component injection molded member, and in that the clamping parts (2) are formed by the legs of a U-section (8), the apex (8') of which is provided as a pivot axis, or pivoting region, respectively, for the clamping parts (2), the clamping regions (3) of the pacifier strap clip (1) being spaced apart in their relaxed open position.
2. (currently amended) A clip according to claim 1, characterized in that merely wherein one clamping region (3) at least partially comprises a surface (6) of the material of lower hardness.
3. A clip according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that, wherein at least one clamping region (3) at least partially is formed by a coating (11) of the material of lower hardness.
4. A clip according to claim 3, characterized in that wherein the inner surface (6) of a clamping part (2) in the clamping region (3) is entirely coated with the material of lower hardness.
5. (currently amended) A clip according to claim 4, characterized in that also wherein a narrow-side rim (12) of the clamping part (2) in the clamping region (3) is

at least partially coated with the material of lower hardness.

6. (currently amended) A clip according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ on each one of the inner surfaces (6) of the clamping region (3), a tooth profile (7, 7') is provided, the tooth profiles (7, 7') meshing in the clamping position, and at least one tooth profile (7') being made of the material of lower hardness.

7. (currently amended) A clamp according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ for the transition into the clamping position, a bracket (4) embracing the two clamping parts (2) and shiftably mounted on the latter is provided.

8. (currently amended) A clip according to claim 7, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ at least one clamping part (2) externally includes at least one wedge-shaped web (5) that widens towards the free end of the clamping part (2), which web is made of the same material as the U-section (8).

9. (currently amended) A clip according to claim 8, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ two wedge-shaped webs (5) arranged at the rim side are provided on one clamping part (2).

10. (currently amended) A clip according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the wedge-shaped web(s) (5) has (have), ~~wherein said at least one wedge-shaped web has a profiled surface (5')~~.

11. (currently amended) A clip according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the clamping regions (3) are oval.

12. (currently amended) A clip according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the clamping parts (2) are made of a hard synthetic material, e.g. polycarbonate.

13. (currently amended) A clip according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ a thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) is provided as the material of lower hardness.

14. (currently amended) A clip according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13,~~
~~characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the clip (1) is a two-component
injection-molded piece.

15. (new) A clip according to claim 12, wherein the hard synthetic material is
polycarbonate.